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## Customer Review



Wahid Azal

### Could've been better

Reviewed in the United States on January 27, 2023

This book will not get a fair hearing from Haifan Baha'is as any source or writing with any criticism of their so-called religion - which should more accurately be termed an NRM (New Religious Movement) or 'cult' - will always be met by the same standard and trite, sectarian textbook canards, demonization and fallacies that have been expressed in some of the reviews here. It is good that Vernon Elvin Johnson has sought to chronicle and document some of the events of the past 30-40 years, and so at least he should be thanked for the effort in not allowing the Haifan Baha'is to exclusively peddle their own sectarian narratives or otherwise erase by silence and marginalization, or engagements of their well-known standard tactic of *damnatio memoriae* (i.e. damning the memory) of anyone who has dared to challenge them and their legitimacy.

Vernon Elvin Johnson has been generally polite and attempted some level of objectivity in his writing on the subject. However, the book could have been written better and with much better sourcing and argument than the one presently offered. I hope he considers doing a second edition and fixes some of the issues. I would even be happy to help him since (under my birth name) he includes me in his list of "exiled Baha'is" (page 120), and this is where the author would have been better served to contact a few of his subjects directly first before writing about them rather than merely relying on the accounts of John Carre.

Regarding my own case, which I wish Johnson had accurately represented, I renounced Bahaism in writing during 1996 to Baha'i authorities in America and publicly from 1999 onward when I got back online regularly after moving to Australia from the United States. As such I have never claimed to be a "Baha'i Manifestation" or "messenger" because my own claim rests upon the illegitimacy of Bahaism tout court and that I believe Baha'u'llah was a false claimant and so a Covenant Breaker of the Bayan, i.e. a Babi version of an Abu Bakr or Umar ibn al-Khattab (which is something the Bab Himself predicts will arise in His Cause in His Persian commentary on the 1st Surah of the Quran). Therefore, who I have consistently claimed to be is the 'return' (as per *nuqtat'u'l-kaf* and *panj sha'n*) of Quddus and Subh-i-Azal in the station of the Point. In other words, since 2002 I have claimed to be the \*real\* He whom God shall make Manifest (man *yuzhiruhu'l-Llah*) prophesied in the Bayan with Baha'u'llah and those who preceded him as well as Jamshid Maani (which Johnson mentions) all being frauds. And besides several of my written predictions coming true in short order - such as the fire that engulfed the shrine of Abbas Effendi in April 2022 or the arrest and public humiliation of one of my inveterate online Baha'i enemies in the UK during 2013 (based on the very thing I had publicly accused him of) or the current 'Women, Life, Freedom' Revolution underway in Iran which will certainly topple the Shi'ite mullahs eventually - my proof is my Completion of the Bayan (in the original Arabic as well as in Persian together with my own translation of both into English) to the end of its 19th Unity, which neither Baha'u'llah accomplished or any of the other false claimants before or after him. If Dr. Vernon Elvin Johnson is interested, the bilingual (1st) edition of my \*The Completion of the Arabic Bayan and the Eight Paths\* can be purchased here on amazon in kindle or hardcover version.

One take away from this book was the case of Laura Brooks which has intrigued me since a central tenet of my own creed is the future appearance of "She whom God shall make Manifest", a universal female Manifestation of the Divine, which I began speaking about in 2002, i.e. three years before Brooks' own claim. However, even though I don't believe Brooks is the female Avatar I have in mind, since She will not appear at least for another 286 years from this writing, it is interesting to see the extent to which a few of my own ideas have inspired and infiltrated schismatic Baha'i figures like Laura Brooks and earlier with Starr Saffa.

All in all, I believe the publication of this book was a worthwhile effort for the collective memory. However, Dr. Vernon Elvin Johnson should also consider doing a second edition that addresses some of the gaps and with better sourcing.

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by Vernon Elvin Johnson PH D

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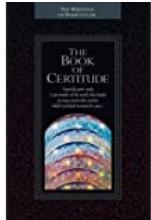
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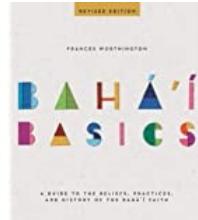
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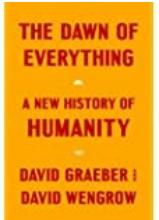
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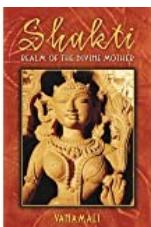


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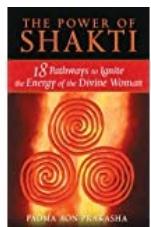


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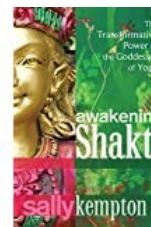
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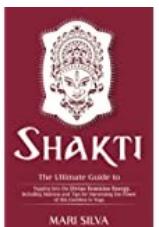
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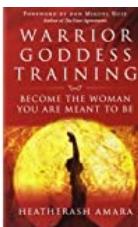
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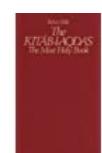
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